

...I still consider myself a "newer" believer. I am not as "seasoned" and everyone else. I have not been gifted with the ability to quote scripture, I have not been put in a lot of circumstances to minister to folks. Well, that was until the last year or so. I am not sure exactly what changed, other than Pastor Phil has been preaching to us to let God use you, ask Him what can you use me for. I thought that this was going to mean my friends and family that were not walking with the Lord. But nope, it was for my work family. Even though the Lord is not using me for my family, I am confident that He is putting someone else there for them. As for me, my flock is at work.

This journey has been gradual. I have not always been as bold as I am now. I am so thankful that the Lord let me take baby steps at first, let me get my toes wet before pushing me in the deep end. It is very difficult for me to tell you how I go about it, how I start to bridge the gap, because every person, every situation is different. I do not have a standard schpeel that I lay out. I do not go around handing out tracks or hold a bible study at lunch on a regular basis (although I have done both, but more of an impromptu thing) instead I just listen, I try and be Jesus to them. Sometimes I will offer pray for them, sometimes we will pray together, sometimes I will tell them about a passage, it just depends on the person and the situation. People find it easy to spill their guts to me. There is an ongoing joke at work, if my door has been closed for a long time they say that Counselor Perez is in session. The good Lord has gifted me with the gift of gab. I am extremely awkward with causal conversation, but once I get to know you I will talk your ear off. Also, I am an open book. You can ask me any question and I will give you a story. I truly believe my life experiences have shaped me into the person I am today. I am not embarrassed by them or ashamed of them, simply they are my story. And, I believe everyone has a story, a love story, that the Lord has laid out for each and every one of us. I am just one of the vessels that He is using, in this very unlikely place.

It has not always been easy. Out of all of my staff, there is one person that is always shaking things up, Satan. I say he has a cubicle in my office, most days he just keeps to himself, but sometimes he is really workin hard at this place. When I first came to this building about 3 years ago, he was runnin it. He was the most productive employee I had. However, today he only comes out of his cubicle every once in a while. But when he comes out, man, he is lookin for trouble. He is ruthless! The only thing I can do is put on the Armor of God and go into battle. I know who will be victorious, unfortunately this dummy thinks he can win. I cannot tell you who he is using because all of the complaints have been anonymous. It would be so nice to pray for the individuals he has his grips on, but it is not so.

I am so humbled by the gift that the Lord has given me. So many people say that they are grateful for their job. I too am grateful, just on a whole different level. Not only has the Lord provided for me financially, but spiritually at my job. I am so thankful for those that taught me that it is ok to be a Christian at work. That I do not need to hide it, that I can be bold about it.

The Lord has sent so many interesting people to me, for me. People that I can relate to their stories and some that I have absolutely no clue what it's like. Either way, they have become a part of my love story. The relationships that have been built, the friendships that have been made

are truly a gift from God. They needed me as much as I needed them. These people, they, are my blessings.